



Zion Lutheran

The Messenger

May 2022

A Word from our Pastor.....

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel. Philippians 1.27

“How are things at Zion? I’ve heard the church has had troubling times as of late.”

Earlier in March I attended a funeral over in Ellisville. The gathering was large, I knew only a handful of people, members of Zion whose loved one had passed away. Standing out in the church’s beautiful narthex, I was approached by someone I’ve known for seven years, but never met . . . a former pastor of Zion. Greeting one another, we briefly chatted, during which time he asked me, ‘How are things at Zion?’ Prayerfully and directly I responded, ‘We are praying and working to be better together.’ After the funeral on the way home, I reflected on the theme ‘better together’. Just what does it really mean? How are we ‘better together’? Let me share two observations.

Confirmation

will

be

Sunday

May

1st

at

the

10:30

Service.

First, it's a true story. Back about 1965 the 3 Mitteis boys of Royal NE started a business. With Grove Lake State Reservoir only 3 miles out of town, my brothers and I (under mom's counsel) became purveyors of fishing bait. Our operation was small but efficient, digging worms, collecting cans (thank God for Campbells) we sold our bait @25¢ dozen. Right from the start, business boomed; many fisherman and a lake loaded with bluegills. With mom's watchful eye (especially on the money) and generous' tipping fisherman, we made a bit of money, of which the boys got a small stipend. Mom got the rest. At the start of the 1967 bait season, mom had an idea—instead of spending money as we earned it, we would save for a Christmas trip to CA. The brothers agreed. By the end of summer we had saved a bit more than \$250 (more than enough to buy gas for the trip). Most by now may get the connection of my story with better together . . . but there's more. You see, during that summer, not just worm business, but also our father's business was good. And so months later in December, the family packed bags, boarded camper to flee frozen land for CA. Things turned out great. But looking back, what if it hadn't been such a great summer? What if our dad ran out of work, and money for life's essentials ran short? What would have become of the brother's hard-earned vacation money?

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, compete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind." Philippians 2.1-2

Being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind, if being a family means anything, it must include 'All for one, One for all'. Over the past years, our church family, our Zion has come through some troubling times, and for our Lord's faithfulness we give thanks. In the months and year (s) to come, with one pastor leaving and another on the way, 'All for one, One for all' must have it's place in what it means for a congregation to be better together.

Second (observation) is even more true (if that were possible). There is no better place for Zion to be better together, than around our Lord's Supper. In the Divine Service, as the united people of God, there is no time more crucial and close to our Savior than when we eat His body and drink His blood. But here needs to be observed, that over the past years, especially the past years of Covid, the number of members present for Jesus Supper have become fewer and fewer. At this time it looks like more are coming back. Lord let this 'return to your table' only increase! And wouldn't that be a great report going out to former pastors and teachers and members; a report of God's people standing firm in the strength received as they knelt to receive Jesus bread of life.

'Better Together'...what does this mean? Let's agree to agree that it's not that complex. We are better together when we are united and strengthened and equipped and thus unafraid come what may...because we are united in our Savior. It's one of Jesus' specialties you know – healing the broken, restoring the unity, bestowing His peace.

Dear members of Zion, our God is gracious and merciful. He has great plans for His mission here on Henry and Elm. Truly, truly Jesus is with you, to make the most of His mission and ministry opportunity. Remain in His Word and gifts. And always let Jesus Himself GET ALL THE GLORY. Now and forever. Amen. ~~P.K.



A Timeless Message

By Ruth S. Sievers,

Loving mother, grandmother, Zion member

Don't wait to say "I Love You"

To someone you hold dear-

Don't wait for perfect timing,

But tell them while they're here.

It's such a small, small gesture,

That means so very much,

It fills the heart with gladness-

Like a mighty, magic touch.

Much sorrow would be fleeting,

If we only learned to say,

With feeling and with meaning

"I Love You More Each Day"

Don't wait to say "I Love You"

You may not have the time,

But let God's love within you,

Reflect your love sublime.



Our beloved Pastor Mitteis is retiring from our church on Sunday, May 22nd. We would like to honor him with a big dinner but he would prefer a small event. We will have pastries and beverages in the gum between the services that day (from approximately 9:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.m.) We will also have a box in the narthex to collect cards for him until the day of the event.

Thank you. –The Zion Lutheran Board of Evangelism

Zion's Outdoor Service and Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 31, 2022. This special event will take place at Firemen's Park, in Staunton. The City of Staunton has approved the reserving of the park. Thank you City of Staunton! This event is sponsored by Zion's Board of Evangelism. This is a great opportunity to invite a family member or friend. Pray for it's success in sharing the Gospel of Christ with others.

Worship Services: Saturdays @ 5 p.m.

Sundays @ 8 & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Midweek Communion @ 6:30 pm

Glenwood Assisted Living Wednesdays @ 10:30 a.m. Zion School's Chapel
Wednesdays@ 8:30 a.m.

Congratulations to Zion's 2022 Confirmation Class!

Leah Marie Cook

Cody Justin Ellis

Katie Grace Ellis

Simon Andrew Kilduff

Olivia Grace Matesa

Braden Gordon Pfeiffer

Brooke Lynn Rucker

Logan Patrick Tuetken

Jacob Patrick Wineburner

Aaron Robert Wyatt



Celebrating Their Confirmation

Congratulations to those who are graduating from Junior High, High School, College, and beyond!

Please feel free to submit names and their plans for after graduation. We will recognize them in the bulletin's news and notes during the month of May.



Not Alone Internet Ministry

Blind Ministry administered by Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
4355 Butler Hill Road St. Louis, MO 63128
314-458-4561 info@not-alone.net

Not Alone Blind Internet Ministry 2022 First-Quarter Newsletter

A FATHER'S LOVE



Pastor Dave & Dad, Richard Andrus

This March, my dad turned 98 years old. That is right, 98 years old. And he still lives in his own house in Wausau, Wisconsin. I have a wonderful Dad who has been there for me and supported me every step of my life. He is so special to me.

Some of my earliest memories of Dad was his presence when I began to have eye trouble. Dad would drive me to my eye appointments (3 hours away) to the University of Minnesota. One year, he gave up all his vacation time to drive me back and forth to see the eye surgeon.

At the age of eight, I had my first eye surgery to repair my retinas. I had to stay immobile in the hospital for a week. My mother was only able to stay at the hospital for the first five days because my grandmother had passed away and she went home for the funeral. I was in the hospital by myself, and I cried most of the day. The next day, through the blurry vision, I saw my dad come into the hospital room. I knew everything was going to be OK.

I valued and appreciated my dad's relationship with my mom. Through his words, actions and sometimes silence, he demonstrated the love of how to be a true Christian husband. His example showed me how to be a husband and best friend to my wife, Debb. But not all kids have the love of their father like I did. My wife, Debb, wrote of this in *The Lutheran Witness* in June 1997:

I was not blessed with the love of a good father. My father was physically abusive, and I spent my life in fear of him and the awful fear of never knowing if the day would bring kindness or bruises from Daddy. Even after my parents were divorced, I lived in fear that my father would come to "get me."

How then can I understand the concept of a loving heavenly Father? For me, it is simple. I just imagine everything I always wished for from my father and then magnify that picture. How do I know? I know because He tells me so: "The steadfast love of



the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children" (Psalm 103:17 ESV).

Whether we had a great earthly father or merely imagine him, we know our Heavenly Father is even more wonderful. He promises to never leave us. Our Heavenly Father states this love for us: "I have loved you with an everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3 ESV).

Pastor Dave & Dad, 1975



Pastor Dave & Dad, 2016

Bringing the light of Christ to blind and visually impaired persons.

What We Do at Not Alone Blind Internet Ministry:

- Provide a weekly devotional podcast message called "You're Not Alone"
- Provide a Bible study podcast called "Room 4216"
- Serve 50 Outreach Centers with a newsletter and leadership support
- Provide pastoral care and counseling that comes from podcasts listeners
- Raise financial support and awareness for Not Alone Blind Internet Ministry
- Website: www.not-alone.net

From our listeners:

- Connie wrote after listening to a Room 4216 Podcast about the tabernacle (Exodus 24:1-26:37):

I have never heard as clear a description of the tabernacle as you described today. Thanks.

- Another listener wrote after the same podcast:

Hello, my friends. I do enjoy these podcasts. One of the things that is important about this podcast is the fact that we give thanks to God. I am so thankful to hear your voice on these podcasts.

- Corey responded in a podcast about mirrors and the question [What](#) do you see in the mirror when you are blind?

I heard this podcast and thought it was inspiring. I look at myself through what I do to serve God, through my performances in front of audiences. Although I am a sinner, being blind my whole life I know I am a true Christian. It is important to hear God's Word through your podcasts; thanks for sharing!

Please continue partnering with Not-Along Blind Internet Ministry to provide hope and restore comfort to those who are blind. You can donate online at www.not-alone.net and click on the "GIVE" button at the bottom of the page or send a check to this address:

Blind Ministry
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
4355 Butler Hill Road
St. Louis, MO 63128

And remember, We are not alone!

May 2022

Zion Lutheran Church Calendar

We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord.... As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. LSS p.273



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8am Wor/Comm 9:30 SunSchool 10:30 Wor/Comm/ CONFIRM M Noon-4p Basement in Par Center is rented	2 6pm Girl Scouts in Cafeteria 6:30 Admin Coun D.O. FundRaiser	3	No Early School Dismissal 8:30am Chapel 9am Lydia Circle 10:30am Glenwood 6:30pm Midweek/Comm	6p Athletic Ban 5 9am Bible Study 5pm Evangelism 6pm Stewardship 6:30pm Trustees 7:30pm Mens Club	6 Kindergarten's Muffins for Mom	7 Pr. Mitteis 5pm Worship / Communion
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
8am Wor/Comm 9:30am SunSchool 10:30am Wor/Communi on	6pm Girl Scouts in Cafeteria 6:30 School Board		8:30am Chapel 9am Lydia Circle 10:30am Glenwood 6:30pm Midweek/Comm	9am Bible Study 3y old PM PreSc Las Day 6:30- 8p School Fam Nig		Pr. Heller 5pm Worship / Communion
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8am Wor/Comm 9:30am SunSchool 10:30am Wor/Communi on 2-4p Youth Group	Game Day @ Zion School 4yo PreK Last Da y	Last Da School 7p Elder s	9am Lydia Circle 10:30am Glenwood 6:30pm Midweek/Comm	9am Bible Study		Pr. Mitteis 5pm Worship / Communion
22 Mitteis Retirement	23	24	25	26	27	28
8am Wor/Comm 9-Retirement Reception 9:30am SunSchool 10:30am Wor/Communi	6pm Girl Scouts in Cafeteria	7p Paris h Ed R&B's FundRa	9am Lydia Circle	6:30p Admin. Council 7p Alumni & Friends		Pr. Girardin 5pm Worship / Communion
29	30	31				
8am Wor/Comm 9:30am SunSchool 10:30am Wor/Communi on Youth Group Fam Day @ Ballpark	Memorial Day		Retirement Reception For Pastor Mitteis is Between services on Sunday, May 22 nd .			